Memorandum of Understanding between Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Limited and the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Department of Chemical and Petrochemicals for 1996-97 etc.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTAJENA): on behalf of Shri SISRAM Ola, I beg to lay on the table :

A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions)

(1) Memorandum of Understanding between the Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Limited and the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals for the year 1996-97.

[Placed in Library See No LT-646/96]

(2) Memorandum of Understading between the Hindustan Insecticids Limited and Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers for the year 1996-97

[Placed in Library See No LT-647/96]

(3) Memorandum of Understading between the Hindustan Organic Chemicals Limited and Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers for the year 1996-97

[Placed in Library See No LT-648/96]

12.01¼hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

First Report

[Translation]

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIA (UJJAIN): Sir, I beg to present the First Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Commitee on Papers Laid on the Table (1996-97) and minutes relating thereto.

12.01½hrs.

STANDING COMMITEE ON HOME AFFAIRS

Thirty-fifth Report

[Translation]

SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA (Kanpur) : Sir, I beg to lay on the table a copy of the Thirty-fifth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Commitee on Home Affairs on the Companies (Amendment) Bill, 1996.

12.02 hrs.

MOTION RE: SIXTH REPORT OF THE BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA): I beg to move :

"That this House do agree with the Sixth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 22nd November, 1996."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do agree with the Sixth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 22nd November,1996."

The motion was adopted.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : We shall take up item nos. 6 and 11 together.

SHRI DATTA MEGHE (Ramtek) : What about Zero Hour?

MR SPEAKER : We had agreed during the Question Hour that there would be no Zero Hour. Shri Chaturanan Mishra to make a statement.

12.04 hrs

(Mr. Deputy-Speaker *in the Chair*)

12.04¼ hrs.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Situation arising from Cyclone in Andhra Pradesh

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : Sir, I seek leave of the House to make a statement on the situation arising from the severe cylone in Andhra Pradesh on the 6th-7th November,1996 and the relief rehabilitation measure taken by the Government.

A severe cyclonic storm with a core of hurricane winds struck the coast of Andhra Pradesh about 50 kilomitres south of Kakinada at 9.30 p.m. on the 6th November,1996. The Indian Meterological Department had been tracking the cyolone and had issued warnings to the State Government. Doordarshan and All India Radio from time to time of the likely course and landfall

of the cyclone. The cyclonic storm went through very rapid intensification from depression to severe cyclonic storm with a core of hurricane winds. After crossing the Andhra Pradesh coast. the storm moved in a West-North westerly direction. weakned into a deep depression and then into a low pressure area by the 7th evening. before fading out

The cyclone has caused severe damage and destruction in East Godavari and West Godavari districts of Andhra Pradesh. A total of 96 Mandals in four districts (East Godavari. West Godavari Krishna and Khamman) have been affected. According to the latest information available from the Government of Andhra Pradesh the death toll is 971. including 872 deaths in East Godavari. 98 deaths in West Godavari and one in khamman district. 925 persons are still reported to be missing. 1.77.150 persons were evacuated and taken to 742 relief camps. The assistance of the Defence services was made available to the Goverment of Andhra Pradesh for rescue and relief operations. Food supplies were dropped in the inaccessible areas with the help of the Air Force. The Defence services rose to the occasion to come to help of the State and the affected people

It is reported that 6.47 lakh houses have been parrtially or fully damaged 935 medical teams have been deployed and 245 veterinary teams have also been pressed into service. The State Goverment has paid Rs. 3.52 crore as *ex qratia* assistance to the relatives of the deceased Assistance at the rate of Rs. 50.000 per human casualty has been made available from the Prime Minister's Relief Fund. Essential commodities like rice and kerosene have been distributed to the affected people and an amount of Rs. 29.79 crore made available for repair of houses. Total cropped area of 5.11 lakh hectares has been damaged. The State Government has mobilized the whole administrative machinery for providing timely assistance to the affected persons

Sir. the Prime Minister himself visited and made an aerial survey of the worst affected areas on Sunday. the 10th November. He also met with the Chief Minister and other representatives of the people at Visakhapatnam and Rajahmundry. In order to enable the Goverment of Andhra Pradesh to carry on relief and rehabilitation measures. an amount of Rs. 50 crore has been made available to the State Government. The Central Goverment had earlier released the fourth instalment of Central share of the Calamity Relief Fund in advance. The Government of India has been closely monitoring the situation and meetings of the Crisis Managment Group in the Ministry of Agriculture were held on the 11th and 15th November to review the situation and arrange for all necessary assistance to State Government. The committee of Secretaries under the Cabinet Secretary also reviewed the position and the Cabinet considered the issue of immediate relief and assistance to the people of Andhra Pradesh. All arrangments have been made for restoring power supply and telecommunications. Fortunately.there was very limited damage to the National Highwayes and rail communication was not disrupted. Teams have been deputed to assess the damage to coconut and other horticulture crops. Orders have been issued for procurement of paddy with some relaxation in the quality norms. Fifty thousand tonnes of rice have been released as *ad-hoc* allotment for the public distribution system. An additional allocation of 10.000 kilo liters of kerosene was also made for the affected areas.

The Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh met me on the 19th November and handed over a Memorandum seeking central Assistance of Rs. 2.143 crore. I assured him of all possible help. I have myself visited the cyclone affected area of East and west Godavari districts on the 21st November. The plight of the people who have lost their homes and their crops is heart-rending. After the visit. I met the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh and representatives of all political parties at Hyderabad and discussed the situation and the steps taken for providig assistance to the people. A central team will shortly be deputed to the State to make a detailed assessment of the damage following the receipt of this Memorandum

The cyclone has also severely affected life and property in Yanam. a part of the Union Territory of Pondicherry Eighteen deaths have been reported and 76 people are missing The cyclone and raines have inundated 780 hectares of paddy and coconut and damaged public property. The Pondicherry Administration has taken all necessary measres for providing relief to the affected people A Memorandum seeking assistance of Rs. 68 crore has been received from the Union Territory Administration. A Central Team will be deputed to Yanam to make a detailed assesment of the damage.

I can assure the Members of the House that no efforts will be spared to assist the people of the affected areas in this time of suffering owing to severe natural calamity.

12.10 hrs.

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

Situation Arising From Cyclone in Andhra Pradesh

[English]

SHRI P. UPENDRA (Vijayawada): Sir. the statement made by the hon. Minister is incomplete and not at all encouraging He has left out many details regarding the earlier cyclone in Andhra Pradesh which hit the Rayalaseema area nesore and Prakasllam districts Also. the statement does not contain any ray of hope about what the Central Government would do except empty words like "the centre is closely monitoring and all possible help will be given ".We are sick of hearing these platitudes.